

PARSONS' THEATRE DINNER AT THE THEATRE ROYAL.

FROM THE AIR. - **WORLD'S FAIR.** - An

international exhibition was held at the

Parsons' Theatre on Friday evening, and

the Friends are progressing satisfactorily.

A large official audience says that the

Friends have had a very successful

start in their work and in the Chancery

Palace on October 1.

With the Friends' help, the Friends' work

is progressing satisfactorily.

It is reported from Colgate that two Ger-

man sailors who were captured when

they were captured with submarine

U-boats.

The correspondent of a New York journal

says that the Friends' work is progressing

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THE SYDNEY MORNING HERALD, FRIDAY, OCTOBER 1, 1915.

GREAT STRUGGLE IN FRANCE.

GAINS MAINTAINED.

EXPLOSION.

ITALIAN BATTLESHIP DESTROYED.

THE ALLIED OFFENSIVE CONTINUES ON THE WESTERN FRONT.

The French maintained their new positions between Souchez and Vimy. There is violent struggle in the Champagne.

A French official message states that the Germans have lost 120,000.

The Italian battleship Benedetto Brin (33,272 tons) has been blown up at Brindisi. Three hundred and eighty-seven members of the crew out of 720 were saved. Admiral Decewern was killed.

It is officially reported that the explosion was due to a short circuit, and that the battleship, although severely damaged, did not sink.

The British have won an important success in Mesopotamia. The Turks are retreating towards Bagdad.

The falling off in recruiting, according to a telegram sent by the War Office to the Bristol recruiting committee, has caused Lord Kitchener the greatest concern.

DARDANELLES.

APPROACH OF WINTER.

LONDON, Sept. 26.—British correspondent in the Dardanelles, writing under date of the 16th, says: "There is a decided fall in the temperature, and the equatorial winds have commenced. A north-easter sweeps over the Dardanelles, blowing the Aegean Sea, but the shore-side shelter at the landing places over the open Suda beaches are safe, the force of the wind being broken. The nights are getting cold. The troops are still bare-headed, but the lightest clothing is becoming uncomfortably niry, and soon there will be an urgent demand for winter clothing—overcoats and blankets."

A high authority assured Dr. Dillon that if the Quadruple Entente despatched a substantial force it would have a most beneficial effect on the Balkan position.

MUNITIONS FOR ROUMANIA.

London advises that large quantities of munitions are reaching Roumania, via Sevastopol and the Black Sea.

The "Corriere Della Sera" says the French Ambassador at Athens has informed M. Venizelos that the Entente is prepared to land 150,000 men in Macedonia.

NEUTRAL ZONES.

The "Berliner Tageblatt" states that Bulgaria has accepted the proposal to establish neutral zones on her Greek and Servian frontiers.

BULGARIAN ENVOYS.

Advises from Cologne received at Amsterdam, state that King Ferdinand of Bulgaria sent envoys to Athens and Bucharest to express his peaceful intentions. King Constantine received the envoys in the presence of the Premier, M. Venizelos, but the King of Roumania refused an audience, and the Premier received the envoys coldly.

NAVAL DISASTER.

ITALIAN BATTLESHIP.

BLOWN UP AT BRINDISI.

The Italian battleship Benedetto Brin has been blown up at Brindisi.

Admiral Decewern was killed. It is reported that 387 members of the crew were saved.

The Benedetto Brin was accidentally blown up in the harbour. The crew numbered 720. Only eight officers were saved. The explosion occurred in the afternoon.

It is announced that there is no question of any foreign intervention in the disaster. Admiral Decewern has appointed a commission to inquire into the cause. It is expected the disaster will hasten the appointment of the new Minister of Marine.

Signor Sandrana, the Premier, has telegraphed to the Duke of the Abruzzi, commanding the fleet, suggesting he should immediately ascertain the causes of the disaster, seeking those responsible, with regard to persons, and thus reassure the country and navy, which welcomes the enemy's blows, but not the immense dangers arising, perhaps, from negligence or slackness, which must be vigorously inquired into, and when revealed punished.

ITALY'S CAMPAIGN.

AUSTRIANS' HEAVY LOSSES.

ROME, Sept. 29.—A communiqué says that the Italian de-

EASTERN FRONT.

GERMAN COLUMN.

LOST IN PINSK MASHES.

PETROGRAD, Sept. 29.—A communiqué states: The enemy, with east of Olszyna (south-east of Vilna) drove back the Russians. The enemy southward of the Pripet were reinforced, and repulsed the Russians at Talsinovka, on the right bank of the Styra. Westward of Tarnopol, the Russians, after terrible fighting, occupied the enemy's trenches and one of their fortified positions at Chodzeczow. Continuing their offensive, the Russians, after strong artillery preparation, attacked and cleared the entanglements and captured the enemy's trenches eastward of Kupynce.

A small force of guerrillas, consisting of peasants, whose homes were burnt, surrounded a German column (the 41st German Army Corps, which was overtaken by flood) in the Pines marshes. The Germans became panic-stricken, and the column disappeared in a mors.

The 33rd Infantry Regiment suddenly attacked the Russian positions in the Eickau district (near Jacobstadt), and despite murderous machine-gun fire, advanced rapidly. The Russians then sent three armoured motors, upon which the German bullet-proof was annihilated.

An Amsterdam message states that Germany is supplying Austria with large quantities of munitions. Austria's stocks are exhausted.

GERMAN WRITER'S VIEWS.

Colonel Morath, a prominent German writer on military matters, writing to the "Berliner Tageblatt," points out the serious situation of General von Mackensen's army. He says that the armies on the Austro-German front in Eastern Galicia and North-west Volhynia are limited for the moment to defence.

ENEMY REPORT.

A German communiqué says: General von Hindenburg's attack south-west of Dvinsk has reached Swetlany Lakes. Our cavalry, after effectively supporting General von Eichhorn, quitted the region of Wiltska.

BALKANS PROBLEM.

BRITISH MISSION SUGGESTED.

LORD CREWE'S REPLY.

LONDON, Sept. 29.—Lord St. Davids, speaking in the House of Lords, suggested a personal British mission with a view to the solution of the Balkans problem.

The Foreign Office replied that it was intended to Great Britain who occupied the particular districts, only it was desired that the boundaries should be drawn upon racial and national lines. It would be difficult to select the best representative to go to the Balkans. If the Entente and foreign Ministers could have conferred the chances of solution would have been greater. He hoped that the Balkans would take to heart Sir Edward Grey's grave words, that while Bulgaria remained unaggressive the relations between Great Britain and Bulgaria would not be impaired.

M. VENIZELOS' VICTORY.

Dr. E. J. Dillon, "Daily Telegraph" correspondent, telegraphing from Rome, says: "The Greeks mobilisation merely commutes M. Venizelos's victory over the Germanophile current at a moment when it was expected to sweep him off his feet. The agreement between King Constantine and M. Venizelos was an unpleasant surprise to the Germans."

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VIOLENT STRUGGLE.

IN THE CHAMPAGNE.

CAPTURED POSITIONS HELD.

LONDON, Sept. 29.—A Paris communiqué says: The latest attack in the Artois by the Crown Prince, declares it was the most furious of the war. There was a tremendous bombardment, to which the French guns replied with little effect. The French parapets melted away, but the French never flinched. The German guns abruptly ceased. A new kind of liquid fire, a mixture of tar and petrol, was projected into the trenches, making them almost unbearable with the heat. The French stood their ground. Suddenly the Germans infantry loomed up. In the intervals between the liquid fire, we passed in streams of lead, the human wave slowly reached our trenches. Bloody hand-to-hand fighting followed. In the dense smoke we were obliged to fall back. Our reserves dashed forward, but were stopped by a curtain of lacrymatory shells.

The "Manchester Guardian" has hotly criticised the distribution, one syndicate receiving £1,000,000, and the fact that the issue is free from British taxation. The paper hastens to believe the British Government authorised such terms. Instead of France getting credit for Britain's better credit, we are suffering for France's worse credit. The interest is practically 5 per cent, above the British war loan, but is very high, considering the benefits which will accrue to American trade. Moreover, it is doubtful if £1,000,000 will be sufficient, and the terms will be a hindrance to further loan if necessary.

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